

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 CU-02 /060 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE: KNBROWN
APPROVED BY EUR: JGLOWENSTEIN
C: RHOPPER (INFO)

-----190603Z 078735 /20

P R 190107Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 114979

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, CZ

SUBJECT: PROTEST AGAINST GOC MEDIA ATTACKS

REF: PRAGUE 1248

1. CZECHOSLOVAK CHARGE BUZEK (AMB. JOHANES IS IN CUBA)
WAS SUMMONED BY ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY (EUR)
LOWENSTEIN MAY 18 FOR PROTEST ON CSSR MEDIA ATTACKS
AGAINST US. LOWENSTEIN NOTED MEDIA REPORTS THAT US
EMBOFFS ENGAGED IN ESPIONAGE, SPECIFICALLY MAY 5
RADIO REPORT ON FORMER PAO WARNER. HE DISMISSED
THE ALLEGATION AS TOTALLY FALSE, NOTED THAT WARNER
HAD BEEN ACCREDITED DIPLOMAT, AND REGISTERED FORMAL
PROTEST OVER ALLEGATION.

2. LOWENSTEIN CONTINUED THAT WE WERE DISTRESSED OVER
SPATE OF ATTACKS AGAINST US LEADERS, AND POINTED
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SPECIFICALLY TO MLADA FRONTA ATTACK ON TRBASURY
SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL AND FOJTIK ALLEGATION THAT
PRESIDENT CARTER WAS HEAD OF CAMPAIGN AGAINST SOCIALIST
COUNTRIES. LOWENSTEIN SAID THESE CHARGES WERE TOTALLY
FALSE, AND THAT SUCH PERSONAL ATTACKS ARE NOT HELPFUL
TO FORWARD MOVEMENT IN BILATERAL RELATIONS.

3. BUZEK RATHER LAMELY COUNTERED THAT HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRAGUE, BUT THAT IF HE DID HE WOULD SURELY BE ABLE TO POINT TO ALLEGATIONS MADE BY UNNAMED CZECHOSLOVAK EMIGRE IN RECENT CSCE COMMISSION HEARINGS THAT HUSAK FOUGHT FOR FASCISTS DURING WORLD WAR II. LOWENSTEIN POINTED OUT THAT PRIVATE TESTIMONY BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES IS CLEARLY NOT A GOVERNMENT ACT, WHILE THE FOJTIK SPEECH, THE REPORT ON CSSR STATE RADIO RE WARNER, AND GOVERNMENT-RUN PRESS ITEMS WERE IN FACT GOVERNMENT ACTS. HE ASKED BUZEK TO PASS TO HIS GOVERNMENT THE POINTS HE HAD MADE, WHICH BUZEK PROMISED TO DO. BUZEK DID ADMIT THAT PRESS ATTACKS DID NOT HELP THE BILATERAL ATMOSPHERE, AND LOWENSTEIN NOTED THAT OUR PROTEST WAS DESIGNED TO HELP BILATERAL RELATIONS AND THAT CONTINUED PRESS ATTACKS WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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